GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6187
ANSWERED ON:11.04.2017
Promotion of Organic Manure
Kaswan Shri Rahul;Yeddyurappa Shri B. S.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether excessive use of chemical fertilizers is causing disease of cancer at large scale and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to develop/produce organic/chemical free fertilizers throughout the country by involving the private sector in view of the harmful effects of chemical fertilizers and if so, the quantum of funds allocated by the Government to encourage organic manure and organic farming and to improve the quality of soil in the country;

(c) whether the Government has achieved the desired targets in this regard and if not, the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targets set along with the success achieved, so far;

(d) whether the Government is taking any steps to make conventional fertilizers easily available in the market at lesser cost in place of chemical fertilizers, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the various steps taken by the Government to promote the production of organic bio-fertilizers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): There is no scientific evidence that balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers cause disease of cancer.

There is possibility of nitrate contamination in ground water above the permissible limit of 10 mg NO3-N/L if there is excessive use of nitrogenous fertilizers particularly in light textured soils that can have consequence on human/animal health if used for drinking purpose.
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(b) to (e): The Government has taken the following steps to promote production of organic and bio-fertilizers:-

(i) Financial assistance to individuals/private agencies through NABARD as Capital Investment @ 25% of project cost limited to Rs 40 lakh per unit is provided 39 units of bio-fertilizer/bio-pesticide have been set up and Rs.708.374 lakh subsidy given under CISS scheme.

(ii) The Government is encouraging the establishment of fruit/vegetable market/agro waste compost production unit for which financial assistance is provided @ 33% of total financial outlay limited to Rs.63 lakh, whichever is less under Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) provided through NABARD for farmers/individual/private agencies including the youth. 7 units of fruit/vegetable waste compost production units have been set up and Rs.178.527 lakh subsidy given under CISS scheme.

(iii) Under Soil Health Management (SHM), financial assistance is given for promotion of organic inputs (manure, vermi-compost, bio-fertilizers, compost, herbal extracts etc.) @ 50% of cost subject to a limit of Rs.5000 per hectare and Rs.10000 per beneficiary.

(iv) Under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) financial assistance is given for liquid bio-fertilizer consortia (nitrogen fixing/Phosphate solublizing/Potassium mobilizing bio-fertilizer) @ Rs.500 per acre amounting to Rs.25000 per cluster of 50 acres.

(v) The National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF) undertakes various extension activities like exhibitions, radio talks, TV programmes, distribution of literature on organic inputs to educate the farmers.

(vi) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types under Network Project on Soil Bio-diversity-Bio-fertilizers. Liquid bio-fertilizers technology with higher shelf-life has also been developed. Besides, ICAR imparts training, organizes, frontline demonstrations etc to educate farmers on use of bio-fertilizers.

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